

**John Kirkpatrick to George Washington, June 19, 1757,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 19th. June 1757

DEAR SIR

I share in the anxiety and concern that you must undoubtedly undergo in the present melancholy prospect and very warmly wish a happy issue—Shou'd my service be requisite in any shape at this juncture, I shall be glad to know it, and will immediately obey with the greatest chearfulness in whatever you are pleased to command.

This County sends 120 Men to your assistance, tho' experience gives but little hopes of the service to be expected from undisciplined Militia—How infatuate are our Assemblys! heedless to the reports of Danger, and indifferent in their Measures for the General safety—otherwise, the spring woud not have passed idly over without a single step taken to augment your Regiment.—The case in short is, we pay more regard to the Welfare of our Nighbours, and look upon our own situation as quite Secure—a Benevolent Disposition indeed! —

Yesterday Colo. Fairfax gave me a Letter from Captain Mercer of 29th May from York—in which he writes me the Method he has taken to reimburse Captain Cock's money, as you may observe on the other side—which method I am certain won't be agreeable to said Cock

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I imagine Mr. Boyd is sometime since, gone to Williamsbg shoud I not receive your orders to go up before his return,—I design to take the pleasure of waiting upon You then —

The new regulations, to be made in Your Command, may probably afford an opportunity of continuing Your kindness and good offices, which I have so often received—and for which I shall allways gratefully acknowledge myself —

Dear Sir Your Most Obedt. & much Obliged Hum Servant JNO. KIRKPATRICK ¹

Capt Cock's £250—thus to be accounted for. Accots. settled with the Committee (tho' not paid) wt. Yours. per recets. £62–9–4.

Accots. ditto. per Capt. Mercer as per Certificate inclosed 164–1–5.

Cash.—Sent by Capt. Mercer to Capt. Cocks ... buying a horse 2 ---

Cash, sent to J. K. per Colo. FairfaxBallce 21-10-3.

£250-1--

¹ John Kirkpatrick, Washington's secretary, as we know from the latter's own words, was a young man bred to business, of good character, well recommended, and a person of whose abilities Washington had not the least doubt.